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## Foul Birds Disappear from "Cuckoos' Nests"

Historic Huntsville Foundation

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# FOUL BIRDS DISAPPEAR

## FROM "CUCKOOS' NESTS"

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article, giving a different view of Huntsville in the early twentieth century, was copied from THE WEEKLY TIMES of June 8, 1916.

In official circles this afternoon it is stated that the foul birds have flown from the Cuckoo's nest in Blounts' alley and along the spring branch.

At 12 o'clock last night the time limit was up as fired by the Sheriff and police departments, for the closing of the red light "districts".

Officers report that the "girls" began to leave on the outgoing trains yesterday and the last bunch pulled out on the Memphis Special this morning.

Several of the former inmates of the district said they were leaving for all time, while a few of them left word that they might be back within a few weeks and establish headquarters in the neighborhood of the brickyard community. A howl has already been heard from that section and they will not be permitted to stop there or any other part of the city. The officers of the law will see to this; for the great bar of publicity is behind them.

Most of the Madammes are still here but they promise strict observance of the law and some of them will disappear altogether as soon as

they can dispose of their furniture, etc.

The new Battle house with large barny bungalow effect is among the lonesome propositions on Blount's alley; and so it begins to look like good people and the new high school are to be saved from the stigma of disgrace.

The Pastors Union and the city, county and state officials are determined that this evil on society shall never be permitted to return with official winking and blinking to Huntsville, where public moral sentiment is so strong that it will not be tolerated at all. Here grand jury indictments, arrests, fines, jail, mine, road and penitentiary sentences await the women who would dare flaunt indecency in the face of our good people again.

Carrying out the fiat, officers this afternoon stated that they will now wage war against the common street walker and will see to it, too, that the men (get) what is coming to them. There is to be no two standards of morals. The men are to be brought to taugh, (sic) exposed and a general cleaning up of the town and county made to stand four square.



A 1905 group photo taken in a hotel lobby, possibly the McGee or Huntsville Hotel.